First Annual Report

of the Consumptives' Hospital of the City of Boston

May 4
1906 to
January 31
1907

RC 308 B7

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CONSUMPTIVES' HOSPITAL

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

MAY 4, 1906, TO JANUARY 31, 1907

BOSTON
MUNICIPAL PRINTING OFFICE
1907

ALLIED PRINTING
TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL
BOSTON, MASS

An Ordinance Creating a Consumptives' Hospital Department, and Repealing Chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 1903, and Amending Section 1 of Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of 1898.

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

SECTION 1. The Consumptives' Hospital Department shall be under the charge of a board of seven trustees, who shall be legal residents of Boston, and at least two of whom shall always be women, to be appointed by the mayor. During the current year one of said trustees shall be appointed for the term of five years, two for the term of four years, one for the term of three years, two for the term of two years, and one for the term of one year, beginning with the first day of May in the year 1906, and hereafter in the year in which any term or terms shall expire, a trustee or trustees shall be appointed for the term of five years, beginning with the first day of May in the year of appointment. Any vacancy occurring among said trustees shall be filled by appointment of a trustee as aforesaid for the remainder of the term. Said trustees shall serve without compensation, but all expenses reasonably incurred by them in the performance of their duty shall be paid, if approved by a recorded vote of the board of trustees. They shall organize the first day of May in each year, or as soon thereafter as may be, by the choice of a chairman, who shall be one of their number, and of a secretary, who may, or may not, at their discretion, be one of their number. No trustee, nor any person in the employ of said trustees, shall be interested in a private capacity, directly or indirectly, in any contract or agreement for labor or for articles furnished for said department. Said trustees shall have charge of the expenditure of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, to be raised by a loan heretofore authorized, and shall have authority to purchase land suitable for such a hospital.

The said trustees shall have authority to erect upon said land and to furnish in a suitable manner a building or buildings suitable for a consumptives' hospital, the total expenditure for such purposes not to exceed the amount of said loan. They shall, after the erection and furnishing of said building or buildings, have charge of the same and the care and maintenance thereof, shall purchase all food and other supplies needed therefor, shall make all needful improvements to the lands and grounds connected with said hospital, shall have charge of all real estate held for purposes connected with said hospital, and pay, or cause to be paid, to the city collector any income thereof.

Sect. 2 Said trustees shall admit to said consumptives' hospital only persons who have been inhabitants of Boston for at least two years preceding the date of their application for admission to said hospital, preference to be given to those persons having a legal settlement in Boston. The trustees shall have power to make all necessary rules and regulations for the carrying on of said hospital, and for the admission of patients. The charges for the support of such inmates of said hospital as are of sufficent ability to pay for the same, or have persons or kindred bound by law to maintain them, shall be paid by such inmates, persons or kindred at a rate to be determined by the trustees of said hospital, and all amounts so received shall be paid to the city collector.

Sect. 3. Said trustees shall, in their annual report, include a statement of the conditions of the hospital, the number of its inmates, the admissions thereto and the discharges therefrom, and the deaths therein during the year.

Sect. 4. Chapter 2 of the Revised Ordinances of 1898 is amended in section 1 by inserting after the words "Bath Trustees" the words "Consumptives' Hospital Trustees."

Sect. 5. Chapter 6 of the Ordinances of 1903 is hereby repealed.

Chapter 189 of the Acts of 1906.

An Act Relative to the Care of Tuberculosis Patients in the City of Boston.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 1. The trustees of the new hospital for consumptives in the City of Boston, pending the erection of said hospital, are hereby authorized to hire not more than one hundred beds in private hospitals, and to pay not more than five dollars a week each for the same, for the use of needy tuberculosis patients who are residents of the said city.

Sect. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

[*Approved March 24, 1906.*

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOSTON CONSUMPTIVES' HOSPITAL.

BOSTON, February 1, 1907.

HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,

Mayor of the City of Boston:

SIR, — The Trustees of the Boston Consumptives' Hospital respectfully submit herewith their report for the year ending January 31, 1907.

The Board was organized formally on May 4, 1906.

The names of the Trustees appointed by your Honor and their respective terms are as follows:

Edward F. McSweeney, *Chairman*,	term to expire April 30, 1911.
Elizabeth A. Power,	" " " " " 1910.
Dr. James J. Minot,	" " " " " 1910.
Isabel F. Hyams,	" " " " " 1909.
John E. Potts,	" " " " " 1908.
Dr. John F. O'Brien,	" " " " " 1908.
Herbert F. Price, *Secretary*,	" " " " " 1907.

There has been one change in the membership, Miss Elizabeth A. Power having resigned on October 15, 1906, and Mrs. J. J. O'Callaghan being appointed to fill the vacancy.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Consumptives, care and maintenance in private hospitals	$10,000 00
Hospital for consumptives	150,000 00
Office expenses	5,000 00
	$165,000 00

Expenditures.

Consumptives, care and maintenance in private hospitals	$554 80
Hospital for consumptives	66,896 18
Office expenses	3,125 79
	$70,576 77

Expenditures for Care and Maintenance of Consumptives in Private Hospitals.

Board for needy consumptive patients at the Carney Hospital	$246 24
Board for needy consumptive patients at the Holy Ghost Hospital	308 56
	$554 80

Expenditures for Hospital for Consumptives.

Estate purchased for a Consumptives' Hospital at River street, Mattapan	$65,000 00
City's proportion of taxes for 1906, on estate at River street, Mattapan	396 18
Architects' competition	1,500 00
	$66,896 18

Expenditures for Office Expense.

Salary	$220 00
Medical services	112 00
Office expenses	90 80
Stationery and printing	99 37
Postage	35 55
Advertising	144 84
Ice	7 30
Carried forward	$709 86

Brought forward		$709 86
Telephone		25 89
Insurance		171 04
Pamphlets on Tuberculosis:		
Printing, stock and envelopes	$875 00	
Postage	1,120 00	
Addressing and mailing	224 00	
		2,219 00
		$3,125 79

Recapitulation of Expenditures.

Consumptives, care and maintenance in private hospitals	$554 80
Hospital for Consumptives	66,896 18
Office expenses	3,125 79
Total	$70,576 77

Income.

Rent from estate at 249 River street, Mattapan, collected by the City Collector	$60 00

Appraisal of Personal Property.

Furniture at office of Trustees	$420 00

The first problem for the Trustees was to determine the character of the hospital. A meeting of leading physicians of Boston, especially those interested in the problem of treatment of tuberculosis, was called, and it was ascertained that the pressing need for consumptive patients was a hospital for advanced cases, the State providing adequately for incipient cases at the Rutland Sanatorium. Acting on the advice of the medical profession, and all those interested in the work,

it was decided definitely by the Board that the hospital when completed would be devoted to cases other than those that could be received at Rutland.

The Board considered a score or more of sites in Boston, and with the assistance of medical and real estate experts finally decided that the estate owned by the Hon. John Conness in Mattapan, comprising fifty or more acres of southerly exposure, was the most ideal place in Boston for this hospital, and, with the approval of your Honor, it was bought for $65,000. Besides this land, there is a house, which may be used for some time as a superintendent's house or nurses' home, a large barn, a farmer's house and a very well maintained farm. This property has been leased until building operations will commence to the former owner of the estate.

The Legislature in 1906 having authorized the Consumptives' Hospital Trustees to care for not more than 100 consumptive patients at a rate not to exceed $5 per week in private hospitals, and $10,000 having been made available by the city government on July 24, 1906, arrangements have been made in the only hospitals in Boston that would accept such patients. Through the generosity of private interests, a ward in the Holy Ghost Hospital in Cambridge was made available, and these same private interests pay the difference between $5 a week and the cost of maintenance, which amounts to about $3 a week. Some 30 patients have been constantly kept in this institution.

The report of Dr. Harry W. Goodall, examining physician, is herewith submitted:

Total number of applications		135
Number of applicants placed in institutions:		
Holy Ghost Hospital	65	
Carney Hospital	17	
St. Monica's Hospital	2	
	—	84

Number of applicants refused treatment (not suitable cases)		12
Number of applicants on waiting list . . .		39
Number of beds available at the expense of the Consumptives' Hospital Department in private hospitals:		
Holy Ghost Hospital	32	
Carney Hospital	6	
St. Monica's Hospital	2	
	—	40
Number of patients discharged:		
Discharged for disobedience	3	
" at own request	22	
" against advice	9	
	—	34
Number of patients who have died		12

With the approval of your Honor, certain educational matters in connection with the work of stamping out tuberculosis have been prepared by the Board, particularly a pamphlet telling what consumption is, how to prevent and how to cure it, which has been carefully prepared, and a copy sent through the mail to every citizen in Boston on the voting list.

Representatives from the Trustees have visited New York and elsewhere, and the Board has united in a statement to your Honor that the most pressing need for consumptives at the present moment is the establishment of a clinic for consumptives, with the request that an appropriation of $10,000 be made available for this purpose during the present year to conduct this work.

Arrangements have been made with the School Committee whereby educational work to instruct the school children how to prevent and cure tuberculosis has been inaugurated. Eminent physicians have been invited to address the teachers on this subject.

The Board has been fortunate to secure the services of Dr. Simon F. Cox, Superintendent of the Albany Hospital, and it is expected he will report for duty on April 1. His work for the beginning will be in the line of assisting the Board in the preparation of the plans and superintending the preliminary work in the erection of the new building.

Numerous conferences have been held with the medical profession of Boston. The members of the Board are well agreed on the general plan of the hospital, and as to the methods necessary to begin the work of erecting a consumptives' hospital, and hope during the coming year to make a satisfactory beginning.

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD F. MCSWEENEY,

Chairman.